



News Release

Arizona Department of Public Safety

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Date: June 1, 2007

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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State Gang Task Force Moves In On Westside City Crips *Search Warrants Conducted after Drug Buy*

The Arizona Department of Public Safety's Gang and Immigration Intelligence Team Enforcement Mission (G.I.I.T.E.M.) has conducted a five month investigation directed at the illegal activities of several West Side City Crips gang members who were selling cocaine, crack cocaine and heroin from two homes located at 2638 West Madison and 2644 West Madison in Phoenix, Arizona.

The investigation revealed a history of violence and drug sales at these residences over the last seven years. Some of the residents of the homes and their visitors are documented West Side City gang members while others are associates. There have been reports of occupants of these homes "shutting down" Madison street late on Friday and Saturday nights to sell narcotics. People being stopped leaving the residences have been found with cocaine, heroin and guns.

After an extended time period of surveillance and numerous undercover buys from the homes, G.I.I.T.E.M. detectives served search warrants at both locations.

This investigation has removed several known drug dealing gang members from the community and taken away a location relied upon heavily by countless drug users to purchase drugs. These drug users are known to commit theft and burglary in order to support their drug habit. This investigation will reduce overall crime in the area and indicates G.I.I.T.E.M.'s commitment for safer communities throughout Arizona.

The mission of the Arizona Department of Public Safety, one of the most dynamic state-level law enforcement agencies in the United States, is to protect human life and property by enforcing state laws, deterring criminal activity, assuring the safety of the motoring public on Arizona's highways and providing vital scientific, technical and operational support to other criminal justice agencies. The Department, also one of Arizona's largest law enforcement agencies with some 2,200 sworn and civilian employees, consists of four divisions – Highway Patrol, Criminal Investigations, Criminal Justice Support and Agency Support. The Department is headquartered in Phoenix and has offices located in more than 80 communities within Arizona's 15 counties.